

**HERBERT MATHEW HALE, O.B.E.  
1895-1963**

Born in North Adelaide on the 3rd June, 1895, Herbert Hale spent his life promoting biological science on two fronts — public education and research.

As Director of the South Australian Museum (1928-1960), Chairman of the Flora and Fauna Advisory Committee (1937-1960), permanent Vice-President of the Royal Zoological Society (since 1928), and as a member of the Commissioners of the National Park and Wildlife Reserves (1936-1960), of which he was Deputy Chairman between 1955-1960, he proved a most able administrator and a respected advisor, and did a great deal to heighten public interest in and improve their appreciation of our irreplaceable heritage of native fauna and flora.

His conscientious service to the Society led to the award of Honorary Fellowship in 1962 following 31 years of continuous service on the Council, during which he occupied several senior offices, including President (1936-37), Vice-President (1934-36 and 1937-38) and Treasurer (1938-50 and 1953-56).

His unselfish services to the community were recognised by his inclusion in the New Year Honours List for 1954.

Although he possessed the wide knowledge of biology essential to his position as Director of the South Australian Museum, his deeper interests always appear to have had an aquatic bias. His earliest writings concern freshwater life, outstanding among which were his studies on aquatic Hemiptera, while his subsequent research was mainly in marine biology. He will be remembered best for his work on southern Australian Crustaceans. His British Science Guild Handbook, "The Crustaceans of South Australia", published in 1927 (Part I) and 1929 (Part II) is now a widely recognised text, while his revisionary studies on the Australian Cumacean fauna provided a new foundation for the taxonomy of this order. His work has been used extensively by subsequent systematists.

After retiring on the 30th September, 1960, he maintained an active interest in his investigation of the whale fauna of the Southern Ocean, and added three papers to his already impressive contribution to research in this field. The manuscript of a further paper was completed just prior to his death, and is now being prepared for publication.

In addition to the 94 papers which he published under his own name, some of his work was undertaken in collaboration with other authors, outstanding of which were his work with Edgar R. Waite on Lophobranchiate fishes, and his joint papers with Norman B. Tindale on Australian ethnology and anthropology.

For his outstanding contributions to "research in science" he was awarded the Verco Medal of this Society at its General Meeting in June, 1947.

F.J.M.